



Appl. 09/870,690
Amdt. dated August 18, 2003
Reply to Office Action of May 21, 2003

Amendments To The Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Please amend Claim 1 and add new Claims 5 through 9 as indicated below in the following listing of claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An image cut-away/display system comprising:
- a plurality of image taking means for taking images in continuous view areas;
 - image combining means for combining the images taken by the image taking means to form a single wide-area view image;
 - view-point data generating means for generating view-point data for each of users based on motion of eyeballs of each user;
 - image cut-away means for cutting away images for each user from the single wide-area view image based on the view-point data for each user; and
 - image displaying means for displaying the cut-away images for each user at a view point of each user.
2. (Original) The image cut-away/display system according to claim 1, wherein the image taking means include a plurality of cameras arranged around a reference center.

3. (Original) The image cut-away/display system according to claim 1, wherein the image displaying means includes a head-mount display by which the images from the image cut-away means and actual views are overlapped with each other.

4. (Original) The image cut-away/display system according to claim 1, wherein the view-point generating means includes a head-motion tracker for tracking motion of a head of each user or an eyeball positional detector for tracking eye movement of each user.

5. (New) An image cut-away and display system comprising:
a plurality of cameras mounted on a vehicle for taking continuous pictures of a wide range of surroundings without a rift;
a display apparatus mounted on a head of a crew member in said vehicle for display one of said continuous pictures;
image combining means electronically and optically connected to said plurality of cameras for making a continuous image of said surroundings by combining said pictures;
view-point information generating means included in said display apparatus for generating a view-point information of said crew member;
image cut-away means electronically and optically interposed between said image combining means and said display apparatus for editing said continuous image so as to make an optimum use thereof for said crew member through said view-point information; and

head mounted display means included in said display apparatus for displaying a cut-away image exclusively required for said crew member so as to clearly display said cut-away image with a high quality.

6. (New) The image cut-away and display system according to claim 5, wherein:

said view-point information generating means has a head motion tracker for tracking a motion of said head.

7. (New) The image cut-away and display system according to claim 5, wherein:

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said view-point information generating means has a detector of eyeball movement of said crew member.

8. (New) An image cut-away and display method, comprising the steps of:

taking continuous pictures of a wide range of surroundings without a rift with a plurality of cameras mounted on a vehicle;

rectifying a deformation of each picture by a correcting apparatus;

preparing image combining means electronically and optically connected to said plurality of cameras;

making a series of continuous images of said surroundings by combining said pictures;

identifying said images required for displaying;

extracting a common image related to each picture or a common color tone thereof from said picture;

correcting a magnifying ratio of said image;

generating a view-point information of a crew member by view-point information

generating means included in said display apparatus;

adjusting a position of said image;

forming a connected image by connecting an overlapped portion of said image;

and

processing said image by a gradation method so as to smoothly and continuously connect said image without an outstanding overlapped portion thereof.

9. (New) The image cut-away and display method according to claim 8, wherein said view-point-information generating step includes the step of tracking motion of a head of said crew member.
